the Labor Group. "If you wish to fulfill your historic mission for which the people sent you to the Duma," he said, "then, on the eve of a coup planned by the government, at the hour when the government has put the bayonet on the agenda, put the fundamental problems of the people's life on your agenda!" His appeal was rejected. The Duma adjourned and never convened again. On June 3, a Sunday, a Manifesto was published dissolving the Duma and radically changing the electoral law. The S-D deputies were arrested. The government was confident of its police force and army. Stolypin had won the gamble.

THE EBB

I spent about two months in the precinct detention house, with two score prisoners taken in the first raid of the S-D group. We were locked in a ward consisting of four big rooms opening on the corridor. The ward was not overcrowded and was reasonably clean, despite the cell buckets. The doors on the corridor remained open day and night. The food was satisfactory. There were a few interesting people among the prisoners, among them old Isidor Ramishvilli and a Menshevist writer, Martynov.

A debate was arranged between Martynov and me, and we exchanged arguments during three long evenings. He was a poor speaker and I had seldom met so weak an adversary. But a strange thing happened to me during that debate: I began to feel that Martynov's position was much stronger than his arguments. The dispute finally boiled down to the question of the relation between the moderate liberals and the radicals in the revolution. Most listeners thought I had demolished my opponent and were surprised by the conciliatory tone of my concluding remarks. Actually, by the end of the debate, I had abandoned my original thesis that the radicals should follow their own course and pay no attention to the moderates.

Since the defeat of the revolution of 1905, I had had increasing doubts about a policy that isolates the labor movement from other groups. While debating with Martynov, I had an opportunity to check my own arguments and realized that the anti-liberal slant in our propaganda had been a grave mistake.

Early in July, the police began to sift the prisoners in our ward. Some were released on bond, others set free. A few were deported to Siberia on administrative order. The trial of the S-D deputies was to be limited to the members of the parliamentary group and half a